IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claim 62 as follows.

Please cancel claims 15-18 and claims 56-61 without prejudice.

15-18. (Cancelled)

56-61. (Cancelled)

62. (Currently Amended) A ~~The~~ labeled probe ~~according to claim 61~~ for detecting a deletion of a stretch of nucleotides from a BRCA1 gene, wherein said deletion comprises exon 13 or exon 22, wherein the probe comprises nucleic acid sequences complementary to both sides of said deletion, and wherein the probe comprises a ~~nucleic acid sequence~~ nucleotide sequence which is the product of a fusion between two ALU-elements in the BRCA1 gene.

63. (Previously Added) A method for determining the presence in a sample of a nucleic acid derived from a BRCA1 gene having a deletion of a stretch of nucleotides, wherein said deletion comprises exon 13 or exon 22; the method comprising:

(i) contacting said sample with at least one probe which alone or together with a means for detecting said deletion, distinguishes between a BRCA1 gene having said deletion and a BRCA1 gene not having said deletion, and

(ii) allowing hybridization between said probe and said nucleic acid to form a hybridization product, and

(iii) identifying the hybridization product.

64. (Previously Added) The method according to claim 63, wherein the probe is labeled.

65. (Previously Added) The method according to claim 63, wherein the probe comprises nucleic acid sequences complementary to both sides of the deletion.

66. (Previously Added) The method according to claim 63, wherein the nucleic acid derived from a BRCA1 gene is amplified.

67. (Previously Added) The method according to claim 66, wherein the probe comprises a nucleic acid sequence which is the product of a fusion between two ALU-elements in the BRCA1 gene.

68. (Previously Added) The method according to claim 63, wherein the hybridization product is quantified.

69. (Previously Added) A method for determining the presence in a sample of a nucleic acid derived from a BRCA1 gene having a deletion of a stretch of nucleotides, wherein said deletion comprises exon 13 or exon 22; the method comprising:

(i) contacting said sample with a primer pair which alone or together with a means for detecting said deletion, distinguishes between a BRCA1 gene having said deletion and a BRCA1 gene not having said deletion,

(ii) amplifying said sample to form an amplified product, and

(iii) identifying the amplified product.

70. (Previously Added) The method according to claim 69, further comprising contacting the amplified product with a second primer pair for amplification, and wherein the two primer pairs comprise a nested set.

71. (Previously Added) The method according to claim 69, wherein the primer pair is suitable for amplification by PCR or NASBA